



# Provost Updates to Faculty Senate



## Plan Released

The Momentum 20/20 plan is now available at

[momentum2020.tamucc.edu](http://momentum2020.tamucc.edu)

## 2014-2015 New Faculty

Last month, we welcomed 66 new faculty members to the University. Visit [academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/new\\_faculty](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/new_faculty) to read more.



"No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world."

-Robin Williams

## Island University President Outlines Path to Emerging Research Status

*From TAMU-CC News, September 10, 2014*

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas—Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi President and CEO Flavius Killebrew outlined the path to becoming an emerging research university during the State of the University luncheon on Sept. 10 at the American Bank Center.

The University is on a path to becoming an emerging research university, a designation that brings increased focus on and commitment to research, scholarship and creative activity across all fields of study.

"For communities with similar resources, a university with emerging research status has had a profound impact on the fabric of the community through business, public life, infrastructure, and the arts," Killebrew said. "Emerging research status is essential in order to keep the best and brightest in our community."

State Representative Todd Hunter addressed the crowd in a video, saying a focus on research at A&M-Corpus Christi will bring in students, high-paying jobs and expertise.

"Pushing research and development for the coastal region through the university is very, very good," he said. "And the return is tremendous."

The State of the University also included details on existing research efforts, highlights from the past year and a look at the University's strategic plan called Momentum 20/20.

"I am proud of the growth and development the Island University and the Coastal Bend region are experiencing," Killebrew said. "With our community partners, the University is actively strategizing and planning for a strong future that builds on our accomplishments and our commitment to students and research for the benefit of everyone in the Coastal Bend."

## Enrollment Management Update

As of September 12, 2014, the unofficial 12th class day preliminary data reports showed total enrollment headcount was up 2.8% at 11,256 students. First-time-in-college (FTIC) total enrollment was 1,992 students. FTIC high achievers enrollment is up 13.7% for a total of 462 students. Alternative admission admits by committee was the lowest it's been in 3 years, at 32.9%, compared to last year's 33.5%.

Looking to fall 2015, Apply Texas went live on August 1, so fall 2015 recruitment is underway and the first Island Days has been scheduled for Saturday, October 18.

### Important Dates to Remember:

- September 26 ♦ Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award Nominations due (send to [faculty.senate@tamucc.edu](mailto:faculty.senate@tamucc.edu))
- September 29 ♦ Starfish Progress Surveys Open
- October 3 ♦ Hands off course schedule, deadline for data entry and edits for Spring 2015
  - ♦ Starfish Progress Surveys Close
- October 17 ♦ Spring 2015 Textbook Adoptions are due
  - ♦ Piper Award Nominations due to LIB 218 by noon
- October 18 ♦ Island Days

## Study Abroad Academic Year 2014-2015

### Maymester 2015

- ◆ The Many Faces of Costa Rica: History, EcoTourism, Music Crossroads

### 10-week summer session 2015

- ◆ Dolphinaris Marine Biology 2015

### Summer Session I 2015

- ◆ The Geology of Scotland
- ◆ NYC2015: World Capitol of Culture and Industry

### Summer Session II 2015

- ◆ Spain TAMUCC Core Curriculum Abroad 2015
- ◆ Theatre in London 2015

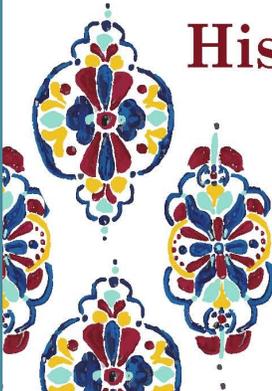
### August Mester 2015

- ◆ Coral Reef Ecology in Belize 2015
- ◆ Bilingual Counseling Practicum in Costa Rica 2015

### Resource Tip:

“OpenStax College offers students free textbooks that meet scope and sequence requirements for most courses. These are peer-reviewed texts written by professional content developers.”

To read more, visit [openstax-college.org](http://openstax-college.org).



## Hispanic Heritage Month

The Islander Cultural Alliance and the University Center & Student Activities celebrated our Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff on Tuesday, September 16. Throughout the next month the University will be hosting a variety of cultural events on campus. As you are able, please take time to attend the events and visit with our students. Visit [hispanicheritagemonth.tamucc.edu](http://hispanicheritagemonth.tamucc.edu) for a full list events and descriptions.

### Upcoming Awards

A couple of calls for nominations have already been announced by the Faculty Senate Awards, Bylaws, and Elections committee. These include the Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award and the Minnie Stevens Piper Award. I have asked college deans and department chairs to consider faculty and staff in their areas that are eligible for these awards and encourage them to submit a nomination. Deadlines for nominations are listed in the “Important Dates to Remember” section on the first page. Please look for more award opportunities in the coming weeks.

### Credit for Prior Learning by Portfolio

We are continuing to lay the groundwork for offering students the opportunity to earn credit for prior learning by portfolio. To learn how to prepare a satisfactory portfolio to document their learning, students will be required to take a self-paced on-line course offered by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning’s (CAEL) Learning Counts Program. To receive credit, the portfolio will demonstrate that the student’s prior learning meets the basic learning objectives of the course at a standard that is sufficient to pass in the judgment of the instructor. Dr. Mark Hartlaub has agreed to facilitate this process for interested students and thus may be in contact with instructors of relevant classes to determine if the process is appropriate and acceptable in specific cases.

### Starfish Early Alert

The first of two Starfish Progress Reports this fall will be available from **September 29 through October 3**. It will ask for feedback concerning student attendance; gradebook progress; recommend students attend academic support programs such as tutoring, supplemental instruction, and mentoring; or provide opportunities to commend students who are performing well. Open faculty training sessions will be available through September 22.

Please contact John Fortiscue at [john.fortiscue@tamucc.edu](mailto:john.fortiscue@tamucc.edu) or ext. 3653 if you have questions or to schedule a personalized training session.

**Provost’s next Open Office Hours will be on  
Thursday, September 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Any faculty or staff member is welcome to stop by and discuss ideas, opportunities, issues of concern, or just introduce her/himself. Please remember that any request for resources, however, must follow the proper paths of responsibility. I look forward to meeting with you!